

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-identified application are respectfully requested. Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 1-6 will be pending.

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 2 and 3 are allowable if rewritten in independent form, and that claim 5 is allowed. Claims 7 and 8 have been newly added to the application, and they incorporate the elements of original claims 2 and 3, respectively. Accordingly, claims 7 and 8 are considered allowable in their present form. Claim 2 has been amended and written in independent form to remove the dependency from claim 1.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 4 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,765,557 to Segal et al. (hereinafter Segal). The Examiner argues that Segal teaches a method for remote control of electronic products using a portable terminal which comprises the steps of performing a remote control function of functions of the electronic products in a remote control mode (citing the paragraph bridging columns 4 and 5 of Segal), when communication is tried during the remote control mode, terminating the remote control mode and displaying the communication standby state to provide a communication service upon a user's selection (citing FIGs 4 and 5, and the paragraph bridging columns 6 and 7 of Segal); and when the communication ends, returning to the remote control mode (also citing the paragraph bridging columns 6 and 7).

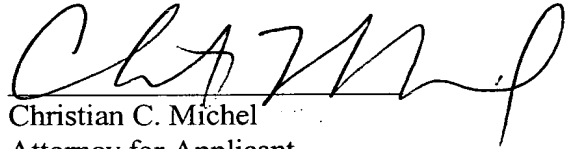
Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's characterization of Segal, and traverse the rejection. Segal simply does not teach or suggest the features claimed in claims 1, 4 and 6 of the present application. Segal teaches a remote control device that includes a touch pad for use with a home entertainment system. The touchpad is

linked to an interactive TV that has a display device (see Abstract). Nothing in Segal teaches or suggests that the remote control performs a communication function of a portable terminal, such as a cell phone or the like, as claimed in the present application. The display in FIG.s 5A and 5B is a display screen of *the interactive TV* (see FIG. 1, HE device 17 and display screen 16), not the remote control 13. Thus, *if* the interactive TV includes a function for sending messages, the remote control device may allow control of that function *of the TV* through the touch pad. However, the remote control 13 does not *itself* perform any communication function, or switch between a remote control mode and a communication standby state.

By contrast, claims 1, 4 and 6 of the present application are directed to a method for remote control of electronic products *using a portable terminal*, and a portable terminal for remote control, respectively. The portable terminal performs a remote control of functions of electronic products in a remote control mode, and when communication is tried during the remote control mode, *terminates the remote control mode and displays the communication standby state to provide a communication service upon a user's selection*; and when the communication ends, *returns to the remote control mode*. The mere presence of icons depicting "New Messages" 38, 40 does not suggest that the remote control 13 of Segal performs cell phone-like communication functions. Since Segal does not teach or suggest a remote control or a portable terminal capable of performing remote control functions that terminates a remote control mode, provides a communication service, and returns to the remote control mode when the communication ends, the rejection should be withdrawn.

In view of the above, it is believed that the application is in condition for allowance and notice to this effect is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Michel', written over a horizontal line.

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